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Human Rights Commission Minutes 01/17/2002

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2002

In Attendance

Sheri Baron
 Marlissa Brigggett
 Christine Carney
 Christine Deshler
 Chris Kita
 Kevin Mc Gann
 Susan McHugh
 Nick Minton
 Roger Rosen
 Bill Shea
 Nancy Sweeney
 Jim Webster

Absent

Esther Kingston-Mann

Sheri Baron called the meeting of the Human Rights Commission to order at 8:02PM at the Jefferson-Cutter House.

REVIEW MINUTES

The Commissioners unanimously accepted the December minutes.

COMPLAINTS AND INCIDENTS

- There were no new complaints or incidents reported this month.
- Kevin McGann reported on the Fabyan St. complaint. The complainant is reluctant to name the respondent at this time. Kevin McGann will draft a letter to remind her of the process and dates. He will also call her as a back up reminder.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

A) Policy and Procedure

- There is nothing to report.

B) Dialogue/Evening with the Author

- Thursday, January 31, 2002 is the AHRC Dialogue The Mickey Mouse Monopoly at 7:30PM at the Community Room, Robbins Library.
- Monday, March 18, 2002 is the AHRC Book Group Whoredom in Kimmage: The Private Lives of Irish Women by Rosemary Mahoney. It will be at the Community Room, Robbins Library.

C) Rapid Response

- The Commissioners unanimously approved a proposal for a Rapid Response Network (see attached). It will be initiated in April 2002. Sheri Baron suggests that when an incident is reported to the AHRC, it should then be reported to the Rapid Response Network, which includes various people/groups.
- Sheri Baron reported that there is a new group called the Town wide Diversity Collaborative and they are hosting a potluck dinner March 9th or 10th.
- 24 groups within Arlington will write the "Eye on Diversity" column. The goal will be to have an article in the Advocate every 2 weeks. Sheri Baron will draft a letter to all groups involved to establish when, how, and who will write the 500-700 word article.
- Sheri Baron was asked to increase the donation to Facing History to \$400.00 instead of \$300.00 due to a cost

increase. The Commissioners voted unanimously to increase the donation amount.

D) Education

- Nancy Sweeney reported that the subcommittee redefined their mission to interface with the school system.

NEW CHAIR ELECTION

- Congratulations to Marissa Briggett (Chair) and Kevin McGann (Vice-chair). All Commissioners were in favor of the election.
- Thank-you to Sheri Baron for all her work as past chair for the last three years.

COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES

- It was suggested that the AHRC should put an Ad in the Advocate looking for a new member and that they should forward their resume to Phil Farrington. Marissa Briggett will talk to one candidate to have him forward a resume to Phil Farrington. Chris Deshler suggested sending a letter to the Rapid Response network-soliciting candidates.

NEW BUSINESS

- Chris Kita talked to Walter Sullivan at the MCAD who said the MCAD wants to be more of an educational vehicle for small business. There will be no more MCAD contracts due to cutbacks. The MCAD wants to know if Arlington would be willing to investigate cases on a no pay basis? The Commissioners will further research this request.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30PM.